Our fourfooted
friends
100th
Anniversary 1899-1999
A publication of the Animal Rescue League of Boston
Spring 1999
The Centennial Celebration
Senior Care for Pets
1998 Annual Report
That Doggone Walk

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On the Cover

"Wren" and feline pal "Mowgli" prepare to put on the dog for the League's Centennial Celebration. The handsome couple resides with Salem Shelter Manager, Laura Caruso.

Our fourfooted friends

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Our fourfooted friends

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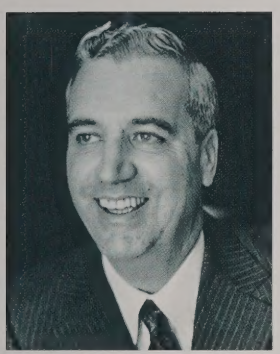
A Message from the President

The Centennial Celebration

As we begin our 100th Anniversary year and approach the next century of the League's endeavors on behalf of animals, we clearly are at both a milestone and a crossroad in our history. This will be an exciting year, filled with activities to commemorate this event.



Arthur G. Slade
President

I hope that many of you will be able to take part in some or all of the events in the coming months. As you know, the big event will be our Gala celebration on March 20 at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston.

We have already been moved by the many warm greetings and best wishes we have received from our sister humane societies and their leaders throughout the country. We appreciate their kindness and support. Our most special appreciation goes out to our members and donors who have taken note of the League's centennial year by writing birthday wishes with their 100th Anniversary gifts. We always enjoy such letters and notes, and they are greatly appreciated by our staff and directors.

In recounting the League's past and taking a look to the future, we have chosen to cover each of our shelter facilities individually in the four 1999 issues of *Our Fourfooted Friends*. The first of these, our Boston shelter, is covered in this issue starting on page 14.

This is a wonderful time for a great organization, and I urge you to take part in this celebration in every way you can! May God bless you for all the devoted support you have given us.

Rescue News

After a dangerous cat-nap in a car's fan belt, "Roger" recuperates at the Boston Shelter.

Rescue of the Quarter

A Dangerous Cat Nap

Wintertime is when families gather close by the fire, sharing in warmth and company. But a small black and white cat without a home or fireplace decided, as many cats do during the cold season, to weather his night on top of a car engine. Tucked under the hood of a Mattapan car, the two-year-old cat remained hidden until the next morning when the car's owner came out to start the engine. As the car started, the stray cat's safe haven quickly became a trap and the snared cat caught the driver's attention. He notified the Animal Rescue League and an ambulance was sent out to the area.

When shelter agents Jessica Hirl and Christine Pendergraph arrived at the feline's napping scene, they found him caught in the car's fan belt. With serious injuries to his front and hind legs, "Tiny Chip" (as he was later named by League staff) needed to be rushed to the hospital. After one day in the hospital's care, "Tiny Chip" returned to the Boston shelter.

At the shelter, League veterinarians treated "Tiny Chip" for cuts and scrapes all over his right front leg, and also for a fractured hind leg. Veterinary Technician Sandra Dustin even remarked how wonderfully calm and sweet "Tiny Chip" was with his handlers, allowing them to change his splint and bandages without so much as a hiss. Indeed, everyone fell in love with "Tiny Chip" and it was no wonder that as soon as he was placed in the adoption center, he was adopted and taken to his new home.

"Tiny Chip," now named "Roger," went to live with Christine and Shawn Laidley of Boston. The Laidleys also brought home another cat, "Stuart," that same day. The two kitties get along great. "Roger" is very friendly and affectionate, and he was an excellent patient during his recovery period. Christine Laidley tells us "Roger" is doing well. "He's awesome. We love him so much." This adorable cat was lucky to be rescued, but Christine says they are the lucky ones.

We're sure "Roger" learned his lesson about sleeping on car engines, but there are plenty of cats and owners who still must remember that a car is not a safe place for a cat nap. Before you start your car, always knock on the hood or honk the horn, then wait a few minutes before starting the engine. Your cat may be an indoor cat, but don't forget the thousands of outdoor and ownerless cats who might, like "Tiny Chip," make your fan belt their bed.

A Veterinary UPDATE

by Bosmat Gal, D.V. M.

Senior Care for Pets

Companion animals live longer today than ever before due to improvements in the medical care they receive. Veterinarians can detect disorders earlier and can prolong life, so pets more often die of geriatric causes such as cancer and organ failure.

Many of the changes that we notice in our pets are related to aging, but aging itself is not a disease. However, some diseases are more common in older pets. We can manage these diseases if we detect them and intervene early. Many factors may influence the aging process including genetic background, nutrition, internal disorders such as organ dysfunction, and environmental factors.

What is Senior Care?

Senior care is the implementation of preventative and therapeutic strategies based on the recognition that the needs of older pets are fundamentally different from those of young and adult pets and should be addressed accordingly. In contrast with geriatric medicine, which historically has addressed the needs of older pets on a case-by-case basis and had focused primarily on disease treatment, senior care defines a category more broadly and implies a preventative as well as therapeutic approach to medicine.

Is the pet a senior or geriatric? A category determination needs to be made based on the age of the animal. Unfortunately, there are no age groupings similar to those of humans. An age analogy chart was developed for dogs (*see at right) and is being used by veterinarians to address the level of care needed. Dogs age at varying rates according to their body weight, genetics, nutrition, environment and overall health status. Changes in senior cats occur across a fairly wide age range. While many cats begin to show clinically significant changes between 7 and 10 years of age, most do so by 12 years of age.

With preventative health care services we can prolong the life of our senior and geriatric companions and can enhance their quality of life. Numerous health care services are now available for the older pet that can help in providing for this improved quality of life.

The general health status of each senior pet should be determined by the medical, behavioral and surgical history. Typically, an initial health screening is performed, including physical examination, complete blood count, serum chemistry profile, urinalysis and fecal analysis. For senior pets with health concerns, additional procedures may be required like radiography, ultrasonography, and thyroid and adrenal gland testing. These tests allow veterinarians to recognize that the spectrum of diseases, previously thought to be uncommon, do occur and need to be managed.

A five-level protocol was developed to meet the specific needs of the older dog and its owner. For example: level one is for the seven-year-old and older healthy patient, level two is a for a senior dog experiencing signs of diseases, while level three is for a senior dog diagnosed with one or more common diseases.

A comprehensive healthcare evaluation can provide:

1. Means of detecting key age-related health problems.
2. Implementation of preventative healthcare.
3. Diagnoses of disorders like organ dysfunction and cancer early enough for medical and/or surgical management, and behavioral changes which are associated to a cognitive function decline.

Check with your veterinarians about a senior healthcare program for your pet.

*** Age Guidelines for "Senior" and "Geriatric" Dogs**

Dog size Based on Optimum Weight	Senior Dogs	Geriatric Dogs
Small Dogs (less than 20 lbs.)	9 - 13 years	Older than 13 years
Medium Dogs (21 to 50 lbs.)	9 - 11.5 years	Older than 11.5 years
Large Dogs (51 to 90 lbs.)	7.5 - 10.5 years	Older than 10.5 years
Giant Dogs (more than 90 lbs.)	6 - 9 years	Older than 9 years

References
1. *Senior Care Symposium, a supplement to Veterinary Economics. Veterinary Medicine Group 1998.*
2. *Topics in Veterinary Medicine, Vol. 8, No 2, 1998.*
3. *DVM, the Newsmagazine of Veterinary Medicine, December 1998.*

News from

Boston shelter staff, (l. -r.) Valerie Kostaras, Melissa Winturri, Franklin Taylor, Solimar Gonzales, and Elena Hinds, proudly show off our animal friends as well as the award from The Boston Phoenix for "Best Pet Adoption."

League Named "Best Pet Adoption"

The Animal Rescue League of Boston was recently included in *The Boston Phoenix's* first-ever "Best" issue. Our shelter staff was quite pleased and proud to be named "Best Pet Adoption." Thank you to *The Boston Phoenix* for acknowledging the work we do. The segment read as follows:

Best Pet Adoption

Most people can't afford to ante up a handful of Ben Franks to bring home Fido or Kitty, and why should they? Pet adoption is a sure-fire route to snaring a long-term companion without incurring short-term financial devastation, and the Animal Rescue League of Boston is at the top of the Hub in its field. Besides offering a free place to park in the South End while pet searching, it's one of the most inclusive, reasonable, and rewarding operations going. So long as you pass the necessary adoption requirements – and there are many, all reasonable – it's possible to walk out with a dog, cat, gerbil, rabbit, or guinea pig within an hour. The benefits are amazing, saving adopters from $122 to $470 in vet expenses. Seventy dollars buys a cat or dog (or kitten or puppy) along with everything from rabies shots, de-worming, and neutering to first-round vaccinations and leukemia tests. They even throw in a collar and leash. Perhaps the most impressive freebie is microchip ID and registration, a nascent program that is one of the first of its kind. Before leaving the shelter, your pet will have a pinhead-size microchip installed under its skin. So if your furry friend takes a solo jaunt into Greater Boston and can't find her way home, you'll be getting a call before you can say "catnip."

Santa (a.k.a. Mike Thomas of the League's Dedham branch) and helpers, Elf Valerie Kostaras, Dog (Marianne Prior) and Cat (Laura Robbins) pose with Boston's finest at the 85th Christmas Dinner for Horses.

Four-footed Finest Feted with Holiday Thanks

Santa and his helpers treated the working horses of Boston to a holiday dinner for the 85th time at the Fanueil Hall Marketplace. This yuletide tradition began in 1913 as a thank-you to the thousands of working horses in the greater Boston area. At the turn of the century, horses were the main source of transportation and goods. As they did 85 years ago, League law enforcement officers visited barns and stables to deliver holiday dinners and inspect living quarters of these very special four-footed friends.

This year, members of the Boston and Massachusetts State Police and Boston Park Rangers Mounted Units took part in the feast. Thank you to Blue Seal Feeds of New Hampshire, for generously supplying the meals of sweet feed, apples and carrots!

Wonderful Winter Petfest

The weather outside wasn't quite frightful, but our animal friends inside were certainly delightful. On Saturday, Dec. 12, the Animal Rescue League of Boston hosted a "Winter Petfest" at the League's Boston location. The holiday event included Pet Photos with Santa (beautifully photographed by our own Bob Howard), children's crafts and activities, as well as Marla Isaac's popular live reptile demonstration. A delicious bake sale table was kept busy by folks in the holiday spirit. Avoiding the crowded malls, visitors found unique gifts among the crafts, flea market items, and League merchandise on sale. Adoption gift certificates were also sold since the League does not advocate giving pets as gifts.

The staff and volunteers had the most fun seeing all the different animals arrive for their visit with Santa and his elf (otherwise known as humane educators Alan Cunningham and Valerie Kostaras). Many of these animals were alumni from the League's adoption centers. Thank you also to all who attended, especially those who donated new toys or blankets and towels.

A big thank you to Boston Photo Imaging for sponsoring this event.

Mission: Ice-Rescue

On a bright, sunny day in February, League shelter staff, veterinary technicians, law enforcement officers, and managers got to exercise their ice-rescuing skills along a frozen pond in Dedham. The temperature was a comforting 56 degrees, and the frozen pond glimmered in the sunlight. One hundred feet from shore, a hole had been neatly cut out of the ice, waiting for a "victim" to climb in.

Teamwork is a definite must when it comes to successfully performing an ice-rescue, and everyone is required to know his or her part. All participants had the opportunity to suit-up and take turns as the "victim" in the ice hole, and also the role of the "rescuer". Victims were "saved" either by the rescuer slipping into the hole with them, and securing them with a floatation device before being hauled in to shore, or by use of the ice-rescue sled.

Bear, the dog is "rescued" from the ice by Officer Christopher Charbonneau during an ice-rescue training session. The two are hauled to safety by onshore staff.

Of course both parties involved are protected by buoyant ice-rescue suits designed to protect a person from the dangers of the freezing cold water. Both are secured to the shore by special ropes, and when the signal is given, everyone on shore simply hauls them onto shore. For many, wearing the suits is enough of a challenge. Having to restrain, and lift a person out of the ice hole requires some practice and verbal guidance from those on shore with experience.

Originally designed to help save people that have fallen into icy waters, the ice sled can also help our animal friends as well.

For the final demonstration, Officer Christopher Charbonneau "rescued" a terrier mix named Bear from the frozen pond. First, he restrained the dog in his arms, and used his body as a "sled" while those on shore dragged him. Afterwards, Bear was rescued a second time using the ice sled. (Bear was never in the water or put in any danger; he was simply led onto the ice!) The gracious dog licked Officer Charbonneau's face the entire time! That's one grateful pup!

At the end of the practice, everyone collaborated and shared their thoughts on how they performed, and where they felt their strong and weak points were. No matter what, should an emergency arise, the staff of the ARL will be ready to respond, with not only their ice-rescue skills, but also the knowledge of knowing they can count on each other, and work as a team!

Pet Friendly Housing Survey - Take it today!

Are you having trouble finding housing for you and your pets? You are not alone! One of the most common reasons animals are surrendered to shelters is due to landlord refusal.

Often, animal lovers will try to sneak an animal into housing, only to give it up once the landlord discovers the prohibited pet. The League always advocates getting approval before bringing a pet home.

In fact, animals may not be adopted without direct approval from landlords.

What can be done? The League has formed a "pet-friendly housing" committee. A survey is being developed that will be sent to Greater Boston realtors and apartment complex managers in an effort to help pet owners locate housing. Informational materials regarding pet care and responsibility will be available to those landlords who may be discouraged from renting to pet owners due to past problems.

If you are looking for housing for you and your animal friends, consider creating a pet resume that highlights obedience training, medical records indicating current vaccinations as well as references. Also, being a responsible pet owner who does not allow animals to damage or destroy property helps the cause for all involved.

If you are a landlord or know someone who owns rental property and would like to receive a survey, please call Sonia Beals at 781-461-8015, ext. 23.

Like Springtime, League Rabies Clinics Are Back Again

The Animal Rescue League of Boston is preparing for the annual low-cost rabies clinic series. Rabies vaccinations are an important part of pet ownership and protect us all. A scratch or bite from an animal can be harmless or it can be fatal. Rabies continues to be a serious concern in Massachusetts. Don't forget that cats, including indoor cats, are also at risk and should be vaccinated. Once again our friends at the City of Boston Animal Control will be joining us to provide the additional convenience of same-day dog licensing.

One Additional Springtime Tip:

Please remember it is also time to have your dog tested for heartworm. All dogs and outdoor cats should be on heartworm preventative medicine during this time of year. See your veterinarian for more information.

The first clinic is scheduled for Saturday, March 27, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Animal Rescue League of Boston Headquarters, 10 Chandler Street (corner of Arlington and Tremont streets) in Boston. It will be a special event because the League will also offer low cost microchipping for pets. Last fall, the League began implanting identification microchips in all newly adopted animals. The League believes the new microchip technology will help to reunite many more owners with their lost pets. Therefore, we would like to offer pet owners the chance to microchip their existing pets.

The League is also planning a few more rabies clinics in the Boston area for late spring and early summer. Please call 781-461-8015, ext. 26 for specific dates and locations.

Tribute Tree Honors and Remembers Our Fourfooted Friends

During the 1998 holiday season the following people took time to honor and remember their beloved pets with a special memento, an Animal Rescue League of Boston Tribute Tree ornament. This year's ornament was a gold snowflake with the League logo in the center. The honored pet's name was written on the back of the ornament (a big thanks to Marianne Prior for her help in personalizing each ornament). A handmade paper ornament was also crafted by the League's special needs volunteers from the Carter School in Boston and hung on the Tribute Tree at the Boston headquarters. Each year the Tribute Tree gives owners the opportunity to honor the memory of a cherished pet now deceased or show appreciation for their current animal companion. The money raised goes toward helping other animals less fortunate than our own special furry friends at home.

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard J. Henson *in memory of Brutus (1986)*
Ms. Phyllis Coughlin *in memory of Leo (1998) and Orph (1997)*
Ms. Catherine Paris *in memory of Stella (1989), Duke (1992), and Al (1993)*
Ron & Angie Downes *in memory of Sugar (1996)*
Ron & Angie Downes *in memory of Tina (1998) - Jim and Janet Bodine, owners*
Mrs. Beverly J. Salemme *in memory of Heather Marie (1992), Babe (1997) and Sammy (1998), and in honor of Brian, Abigail, Elizabeth, Champ and Houdini*
Ms. Helena Thibodeau *in memory of Meagan (1998) and Mr. Belvidere (1996)*
Ms. June Lewey *in memory of Jingles (1994) and in honor of Brandi*
Miss Winona Weber *in honor of Miss Muffett*
Mrs. Marilyn Sanford *in memory of Gerry (1984) and Germaine (1986)*
Ms. Susan M. Kryczka *in memory of Lucy (1997)*
Ms. Sandra Lewis *in memory of Brandy (1992) and Max (1998)*
Ms. Terry B. Purcell *in memory of Ebony (1995) and Sam (1998)*
William and Theresa Romanoff *in memory of Max (1998) and Pixie (1998)*
Mrs. Karen Wiggin *in memory of Purr (1995), Caroline (1998), and in honor of Agatha and Velvet*
Rosalie and Ed Sasso *in memory of Tava (1998)*
Mr. David Donald *in memory of Whiskey (1988)*
Ms. Peggy Koehl *in memory of Poco Amore (1995) and Amanda (1992), and in honor of Tucker*
Ms. Sonia Beals *in honor of Chloe, Rascal, Scotch and Keira, and in memory of Princess, Gigi, Tiger, Shiloh, Bill, Daniel*
Mrs. Edith Patterson *in memory of Lucky (1990)*
Ms. Maudyea Campbell *in honor of Ling Ling and Kashmiri*
M. Resta Detwiler *in memory of Piggy (1995), Sabrina (1995), Brandy (1991), Patches (1997), Wimpy (1995), Buffy (1991), Rugg (1991) and Muffin (1997) and in honor of Allie Cat, Beauty, Cody, Kacey, Pepper, Sam, Scruffy, Smokey, Tigger, Bandit, Ben, Jerry, Oreo, Princess, Samantha, Simba, Snowball, and Toby*
Miss Eleanor Meskell *in memory of Chips (1996) and in honor of Scarlett*
Mrs. Noel Yacobian Golz *in memory of Alex (1995) and his sister Demetria (1997)*
Ms. Sicora Brown *in memory of Duchess (1998)*
Ms. Elaine Fifield *in memory of Sam (1998)*
Ms. Rita Hennessey *in honor of Lucky Hennessey and Annie Hennessey*
Ms. Ann Caton *in honor of Bear and Katelyn*
Ms. Nadine Killion *in memory of Heidi (1993)*
Ms. Jeannie Goodwin *in memory of Lucy (1998)*
Ms. Judith Boucher *in memory of Chipper (1995)*
Ms. Deborah Tyler *in memory of Willy (1996)*
Ms. Margaret Mary Gavenonis *in memory of Nit-Nee (1997), Tippy (1982) and in honor of Snowball*
Ms. Pia M. Guarnaccia *in memory of Duke (1997)*
Ms. Karen L. Gibson *in memory of Kashee (1987), Schaumee (1992), and Makenzie (1997), and in honor of Simon and Seringa, and Sadie*
Ms. Jo Ann Bennett *in memory of Mischief (1998) and in honor of Pixie and Murdock*
Ms. Brenda Steinmetz *in memory of Nummy (1994)*
Ms. Joy M. Speranza *in honor of Sophia*
Lenore and Michael Smith *in memory of Jake (1998) and Matisse (1998) - Jim Wiper and Laura Weiblen, owners*
Ms. Peg Kelly *in memory of Drusus (1997)*
Pebo Bohannon *in memory of Leilah (1995)*
Ms. Judy Baginsky *in memory of Pooh Bear (1998)*
Ms. Kathy Moffie *in memory of Pepper (1994)*
Ms. Amelia J. Moffie *in memory of Yo Jimbo (1995)*
Ms. Amara Robinson *in memory of Ginger (1992) and in honor of Cinnamon and Halley*
Ms. Louise Perkins *in honor of Heidi Girl*
Ms. Lynne Farley *in honor of Jackie-O*
Ms. Karen Leonardo *in memory of Zoot (1993)*
Natasha Nelsen and Chris Bracken *in honor of Saani*
Ms. Liann Devereux *in honor of Murphy and Rufus*
Ms. Cathy Archambault *in honor of Stimpy and Mickey*
Mr. Joseph Bontempo *in memory of Brewster (1998)*
Ms. Janet O'Donoghue *in memory of Rocky (1997)*
Nancy Galvin *in memory of Brandy (1998)*
Ms. Carey Zimmerman *in memory of Hannah (1998)*
Ms. Heather Johnson *in memory of Gretchen (1998)*
Ms. Laurel Wellman *in memory of Frisco (1997)*
Ms. Laurie L. Lober *in memory of Molly (1995)*
Ms. Jean M. Houghton *in memory of Tammy (1996)*
Ms. Jean M. Houghton *in memory of Sophie (1997) - Patricia Sullivan, owner*
Ms. Theresa Kelley *in honor of Jenny*
Ms. June Tavian *in honor of Lady*
Mrs. Barbara L. Kinsman *in memory of Tigger (1996)*
Pat Shechter, Ph.D. *in memory of Merlin (1998) and in honor of Velcro and Valentino*
Ms. Nancy G. Higgins *in memory of Butch (1998)*
Ms. Trudy Remissong *in honor of Max, Perkins, Sadie, Casey, Winston, Shelby*
Ms. Jeanne Upham *in memory of Brandy Alexander (1998) - Jennifer and Thomas Whittingham, owners*
Ms. Janet Errico *in memory of Moose (1994) and Barney (1994)*
Mr. & Mrs. William Cooper *in memory of Spirit (1997)*
Ms. Barbara Moss *in memory of Sadie (1998) and Brandy (1995)*
Ms. Martha J. Mc Gowan *in memory of Sidney (1979) and Winifred (1998)*
Miss Marjorie Langway *in memory of Amos (1993) and in honor of Willie*
Ms. Patricia Rohan *in honor of Jessie*
Diana L. Colley *in memory of Binky (1996)*
Ms. Susan Rhodes *in memory of Pandora (1997)* and Buck (1985)
Mr. Joseph Giroux *in honor of Pumpkin*
Mrs. Luana Haner *in honor of Millie, Daisy and Willie*
Ms. Donna Kendall *in honor of Nana Sponholtz's, pet Sammy*
Ms. Nancy A. Siddens *in memory of Mixi (1998)*
Ms. Diane De Masi *in honor of Zero*
Susan and Jeff Kaplan *in memory of Snowy Kaplan (1998) - Roberta Temple, owner*
Ms. Sue Koszalka *in memory of Tupper (1998), Trouble (1998), Tuffy Mouse (1998) and in honor of Didi and TJ*
Ms. Gail Egounis *in memory of "Daddy's Girl" Maxxine (1998)*
Ms. Marie Hilson *in memory of Duke (1992), Pepe (1980), and in honor of Becca*
Ms. Carol Bender *in memory of Fred (1998) - Dana Mullaley, owner, and in memory of Clyde (1995), Julie Bender owner, and in honor of Mickey, Cathy Archmbault, owner*
Mr. David C. Rosenfield *in memory of Brenda (1988)*
Ms. Lisa Simonetti *in memory of Samantha (1995) and in honor of Maggie May, Baci, Bosco and Ben*
Ms. Heather Tingle *in memory of Shadow (1998)*
Ms. Catherine Weisbrod *in memory of Amber (1996) and Clown (1985)*
Ms. Mona Palter *in memory of Fang (1998) - Maggie Printezis, owner*
Ms. Jeanette L. Floyde *in memory of Scruffy (1998)*
"Roady" O'Toole *in honor of "Sally" Gibson*

Ms. Lynda Gutowski *in memory of Spotty (1974), Killer (1985), Dickens (1993), and in honor of Bitsy*
Ms. Beverly Hardcastle *in memory of Nicky (1996)*
Ms. Beth Field *in honor of Mongo*
Ms. Carol Ann Cross *in memory of Carrie (1995), Skippy (1983), Chloe (1995), Pippin (1986), Tammy (1993), and in honor of Ziggy*
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Ms. Laura Caruso *in memory of Anja (1996)*
Marilyn Hafner *in memory of Samantha (1998) and Tobey (1996)*
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Mrs. Deborah Hogan *in honor of Skippy*
Ms. Bridget Gallagher *in memory of Frankie (1997)*
Ms. Deborah A. Mc Cormick *in honor of Snuggles*
Ms. Sue Costello *in memory of Codi (1990)*
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Mrs. Mary Klayda *in memory of Brandy, (1995) - Charlie Pietrantonio, owner*
Marianne Prior *in honor of Fletch, Fenway and Kitty*
Mr. Walter L. Torrance *in honor of Raquets*
Mr. Eric Mackin "from Mom" in memory of Tracy Mackin (1996)
Mr. John Markley "from Rita" *in memory of "Max" Markley (1998)*
Jennifer and Mark Hanso *in memory of Scrappy (1998)*
Erin and Courtney Farrar *in memory of Rascal (1998)*
Kerri Hoey *in honor of Merlin*
Janice Alder *in honor of Cubby and Kiara*
Ms. Denise Vesuvio *in honor of Hera*
Christine Pendergraph *in honor of Celina Rose*
Linda Pendergraph *in honor of Budweiser*
Johanna Saratora *in honor of Sarah and Jesse*
Mrs. Jeffrey E. Marshall *in memory of "The Girls"*
Mrs. Patricia L. Young *in honor of Emma, Einstein, Dottie and Bosco*
The Cunningham Family *in memory of Kory (1997) and Gulliver (1992)*
Ms. Cynthia M. Herrick *in honor of Cleo and Timothy*
Adrien Lussier *in memory of Baron (1992)*
Nancy Cianchetta *in honor of Nikki*
Ms. Diane E. Kotz *in memory of Shelby (1998)*
Mrs. Horst Ambiel *in honor of Rosemary, Saralee, and Macbeth*
Ms. Linda R. Druwing *in honor of Kelly and Montana*
Mr. Arthur S. Payne *in memory of Taffy (1973), Smoky (1981), Tabby (1997)*
Mr. and Mrs. Carmichael *in honor of Babsie and Tasha*
Mrs. Kathleen Hallisey *in memory of Candy (1997)*
Ms. Linda Brabrook *in memory of Freckles (1992), Onyx (1997), and in honor of Oreo*

ARL's Friends Proudly Dedicate Another Sign

There seems to be no end to the charity and generosity of one Peabody family.

After seeing their neighbor, Joe DiStefano, go through the trauma of losing his cat, Brat, to an unknown murderer, Maria and Ron Scott of Peabody decided to take action. The Scotts decided to give of themselves by donating over $1,000 of signage and an invaluable amount of time to *Brat the Cat's Memorial Walk*. Bitten by the giving bug, the Scotts didn't stop there. They donated time and signs to last May's *That Doggone Walk*, October's *Petoberfest*, and December's *Petfest*. The latest Scott donation is a sign for the recently renovated adoption center memorializing their beloved pets, "Mooch" and "B."

The sign, in wood and blue lettering, comes from Maria's own "Eclipse Signs and Truck Lettering." It is hung proudly in the lobby of the Boston shelter, both announcing the adoption center and brightening up the room.

(From L - R) Maria Scott, League President Arthur Slade, and Ron Scott proudly show the sign the Scotts donated to the Animal Rescue League's newly renovated adoption center.

Here are just a few of the League's dedicated long-term employees. Al LoConte (back, 2nd from left) has been with the League for a quarter of a century. What an achievement!!

1998 Holiday Party

1998's Holiday Party was once again held at Appetito Restaurant next to the League's Boston headquarters. The food was delicious, especially the desserts. (There are quite a few sweet-tooths among League employees.) The get-together was a nice chance to relax and chat with co-workers. A slide show with the staff in humorous poses has become a favorite tradition. On a more serious note, employees were honored for their time and dedication to the League. Pins were awarded to the following employees according to their years of service to the League:

One Year of Service

Christine Carbonello
Xarifa Hider
Franklin Taylor
Debra Vogel
Elizabeth Field
Kim Hollinger
Dina D'Andrea
Leslie Strahl
Kimberly Brown
Britt Cronin
Johanna Saratora
Valerie Kostaras
Heather Sacks
Christine Fitzgerald
Paul Donahue
Kerri Hoey
Eric Smith
Samantha DeWitt

Five Years of Service

Barbara Nadeau
Beverly Hardcastle
Jeff Geller
Dr. Cheryl Cullion
Lisa Lagos
Todd Hutchinson

Ten Years of Service

Frank Bracken

Fifteen Year of Service

Thom White

A special honor was given to Al LoConte, a beloved employee from our Dedham branch who has worked tirelessly on the League's behalf for 25 years.

President Arthur Slade poses with the President's Award nominees.

The President's Award Program

"The President's Award Program" is a new employee recognition program established as part of the League's centennial celebration. The first annual President's Award nominees were named at the 1998 Holiday Party, and two winners were to be announced at the Centennial Early Supper on February 22, 1999. Supervisors nominated employees for their outstanding achievement during the past year of service. Congratulations to all the nominees and thank you for all your hard work on behalf of animals.

Exempt Employee Category

Alan Borgal - *Law Enforcement*
Mike Brammer - *Training*
Sandi Luppi - *Brewster Branch*
Hugh Mulligan - *Boston Shelter*
Dr. Shophet - *Clinic*
Laurel Wellman - *Public Relations*

Non-Exempt Employee Category

Christine Carbonello - *Dedham Branch*
Britt Cronin - *Boston Shelter*
Melinda Lary - *Brewster Branch*
Rigaud Lee - *Law Enforcement*
Al LoConte - *Dedham Branch*
Kelly MacQueen - *Salem Branch*
Linda McKoy - *Boston Shelter*
Angella Postell - *Clinic*
Joe Winslow - *Boston Shelter*

First Pet Show–1949 *Little beauties exhibit prize pets at Bunker Hill Girls Club pet show. Jean Campbell with "Teddie," king of male class; Ruth Tucker holding a slumbering queen, "Pinkie," and Mary Brennan with a firm grip on "Fluff," princess of the feline entries. The event was sponsored by the Animal Rescue League of Boston. (8/6/1949)*

Summertime, Summertime, Sum-sum-summertime!

The Animal Friends Summer Camp is proud to be celebrating 50 seasons of fostering humane education values in children. Through the years, we have stayed true to our mission of promoting caring and kindness toward animals, the environment, and ultimately, oneself. We invite you to join us in our celebration!

The camp offers classes and activities in areas such as farm life, small pet care, ocean ecology, nature exploration, and horse care. Arts and crafts, woodworking, and team sports are also some of the traditional class offerings.

Children entering grade one through age 12 are invited to come explore, meet friends, and enjoy the sunshine. Applications for registration are now being accepted for the 1999 season.

Session I, from June 28 to July 23, is open to campers from ages 10-12. **Session II**, from July 26 to August 20, is open to campers age 6-9. Children may be enrolled for either full-day (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) or half-day (morning or afternoon) programs.

Registration Fee:
$400 (full-day), $275 (half-day)
For each additional child in a family:
$330 (full-day), $235 (half-day)

Campfest '99
(50th Celebration and Pet Show)
Saturday, July 24, 1999
Animal Friends Summer Camp
96 Megansett Road, Cataumet
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

For more information
or to register, please contact:
Sonia Beals, *Director*
Animal Friends Summer Camp
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117
781-461-8015 ext. 23

1998 Annual Report

The year 1998 was an exciting and hectic one, with many events and programs functioning at the same time. The devotion and efforts of our staff have truly exemplified the motto of our founder, Anna Harris Smith: "Kindness Uplifts the World."

We have been actively monitoring state legislation that may have a positive or negative impact on the welfare of animals. An item of major concern in this regard is the attempt to weaken or repeal the ban on the use of steel jaw leghold traps, which was enacted with the passage of Question One in November 1996.

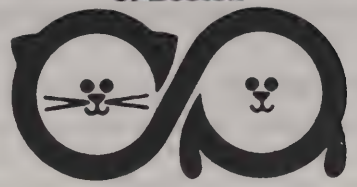
This past year was an active one for staff training in several aspects of our rescue work. This past summer six members of the field rescue team took further training in Maryland as part of the American Humane Association's (AHA) National Disaster Relief Program. This and prior training stood them in good order when a call came from AHA's Disaster Relief headquarters for our assistance in North Carolina following the destruction of hurricane "Bonnie."

We are grateful for our many friends who continue to donate equipment for special types of rescues. Our thanks go out to Red Acre Farm, Inc. for donating the funds to purchase an Anderson sling and sled for use in lifting injured horses to safety and transporting them to mobile transportation. It is yet another specialty tool to aid us in our service motto, "Rescue is our middle name."

The lost and found activities at all of our shelters is one of the happiest tasks our staff perform. In addition, the placement of unwanted animals in new homes has been a constantly rewarding experience. All of our shelters have redoubled their efforts in our adoption program to place as many healthy, suitable animals in caring homes as possible. We follow a careful screening and evaluation procedure to make every effort to insure that each animal is in the best home possible. To this end, we have enhanced services that each animal receives as part of the adoption program.

Practical high-tech procedures have come to our shelters, and microchips are the latest example. In September, the League began implenting a microchip under the skin of each adopted pet for permanent identification. The new microchip technology will aid the League in reuniting owners with lost pets. The Avid Friend chip, which the

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE
of Boston



HELPING ANIMALS SINCE 1899

Your 1st class stamp on this envelope saves us postage.

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 47781 BOSTON, MASS.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON
P.O. BOX 265
BOSTON, MA 02117-9949

League uses, is a small computer chip the size of a long grain of rice which is implanted under the skin in the scruff of the animal's neck. The chip remains with the animal for life. If the animal is ever lost, a scanner can read its identification number. Data regarding the owner is available at once from our shelter computer system and our national registry. Our computer system is also able to aid in promoting adoptions since it now links our four shelters, and can identify animals available at each.

Our clinic is constantly treating of sick and injured animals, to the point that we must look to expand this part of our operation. Our veterinarians treated over 11,500 cases last year in our outpatient clinic.

The Law Enforcement Department was especially busy with a growing number of violent crimes of animal cruelty, committed by an alarmingly young portion of our population. Officers handled 1,233 cruelty complaints involving 4,411 animals. In addition, our inspectors conducted hundreds of inspections of all types of places where animals were being kept. These inspections involved 162,674 animals.

Our rabies control work for the City of Boston has kept a busy pace during 1998 and we continue to see cases of rabies in the wildlife population, mainly skunks and raccoons. A total of 1,678 animal bites were reported in Boston and 337 animals required laboratory examination for rabies.

A new and exciting event that took place this year was *That Doggone Walk* dog walk, held May 9 at Castle Island in South Boston. Despite rather foggy weather, over 100 walkers and their dogs walked the 2.1 miles at Castle Island.

The Animal Friends Summer Camp was a great success this past year with enrollment at full capacity. We are pleased to see such strong interest in this unique experience for children.

Our third annual Petoberfest was a huge success with over 1,000 people taking part.

This has been a very special time in the League's history and we look forward to the next century of service.

Boston Shelter Continues to Thrive as the Hub of the Animal Rescue League of Boston

by Sonia Beals

This excerpt was taken from the preface of the 1912 book, "Four-Footed Friends," written by the League's founder, Anna Harris Smith.

"The great need in this world is kindness. Let anyone think for a moment and he or she will realize that a large part of suffering everywhere comes either through active unkindness or from selfish disregard of another's feelings. If children are carefully taught kindness and thoughtful consideration for every living creature, they are going to grow up to make the world better and happier. Lessing, the great German writer, said: "The man who has most pity is the best man—is the one most disposed to all social virtues, to nobleness of every sort. He who awakens our compassion makes us better and more virtuous."

Kindness Uplifts The World

This is the story of over a century of humane service to animals. It is a story of the sheltering of the homeless, the care of the afflicted, the prevention of cruelty and the education of children and adults in kindness toward animals. It is a story of a dauntless personality, League founder Mrs. Huntington (Anna Harris) Smith, and those who followed her. Finally, it is the story of the growth of a great charitable enterprise.

1914 - Watering Horses at South Station. The League agents watered over 50,000 horses that summer.

The Animal Rescue League of Boston is in existence because one woman cared enough about the plight of homeless and mistreated animals to write a letter to the Boston Evening Transcript. She invited fellow concerned citizens to form the first Animal Rescue League in the United States. A group of 110 caring individuals incorporated the League on March 13, 1899. In fact, Edward Clement, the literary editor of the newspaper was so touched by the idea that he became a director of the League and served until his death in 1918.

Today, the League boasts over 30,000 members, helps thousands of animals annually and operates four shelters. Throughout this centennial year, each of the shelters will be featured in an issue of *Our Fourfooted Friends*. In this issue, we salute the Boston headquarters and the dedicated employees who care for our animal friends.

The League's headquarters were first located at 68 Carver Street in Boston. In 1903 offices were opened at 49-51 Carver Street. In 1939 the Boston shelter moved to 366 Albany Street. In 1955, the Albany Street shelter was taken by eminent domain to make way for an expressway. Construction was completed in 1956 for the present headquarters, located at 10 Chandler Street, adjacent to the corner of Tremont and Arlington Streets.

Today, the League employs close to 90 caring individuals – 65 of them in Boston. The mission, recorded during that first meeting in March, 1899, remains constant – "The purpose of the establishment of one or more refuges for and the rescue and relief of suffering or homeless animals and any other charitable or benevolent acts for the welfare of animals."

The League's finest in front of 51 Carver Street, 1935.

In addition to the administrative offices, Boston houses the largest shelter of the League's four facilities. Four ambulances answer daily calls for injured animals, domestic and wild. The League's

Timeline

1899
Animal Rescue League of Boston organized. League moves into first headquarters at 68 Carver Street. George A.O. Ernst elected first President.

1901
Mrs. Huntington (Anna Harris) Smith elected President.

1902
First issue of Our Fourfooted Friends published. League receives first bequest. First Annual Fair nets $2,063.

law enforcement department operates from Boston and investigates, and when necessary, prosecutes cruelty and neglect cases. Humane educators conduct tours of the shelter, visit schools and perform pet visitation at local nursing homes. Volunteers can be found throughout the shelter assisting staff with socializing animals, greeting visitors or even helping to fold blankets and make litter boxes.

The League's outpatient clinic is also located in Boston. Five veterinarians, assisted by veterinary technicians, evaluate animals that pass through the doors. Ambulance drivers or law enforcement officers have picked up some, while others have been surrendered directly to the shelter. In addition, the clinic spays and neuters all pets that have been adopted. The facility is also open to the public by appointment.

Boston is the most active of the League's shelters due to its location. Arthur Slade, President of the League since 1977 and employed by the League since 1964 has observed much during his tenure. "There have been improvements over the years – in addition to increasing supervisory staff such as the addition of assistant shelter managers and veterinary technicians in the shelter, the facility itself has been constantly renovated." Outside dog runs were added last year to give larger animals an opportunity to get fresh air and exercise. Presently the shelter and adoption area floors and walls are being renovated to improve the prevention and control of disease and infection.

Mr. Slade also lauds the advent of new technology. "The shelters are connected by an advanced computer program that tracks all animals that come into the shelter. We are now beginning to microchip every animal before it leaves the shelter to go home." Microchips are injected and are coded. Should a pet become lost and make its way to a shelter, the animal can be scanned for microchipping and quickly reunited with its owners.

Although there have been improvements, Mr. Slade acknowledges trends that have not been positive. "We continue to see cruelty cases – maybe more at this point. The cases we're now seeing are more violent and connected to domestic abuse." Research has proven that there is a link between domestic abuse and animal cruelty. Abuse usually starts on animals and then moves to humans. "We're also seeing more dogfighting. It has become much more openly prevalent," says Mr. Slade. "We encourage anyone with knowledge of this cruel practice to call our law enforcement department." On the positive side, Mr. Slade has noticed a steady decrease over the years in the number of puppies that come in to

1903
League moves headquarters to 51 Carver Street.

1907
Rest farm for horses and pet cemetery established in Dedham.

1908
League assumes work of Dog Officer and Pound for City of Boston.

1913 - The first reception room in the original headquarters building.

the shelter. "Although we still see a great number of kittens, pet owners seem to understand the need for spaying and neutering their dogs. We simply don't see as many puppies as compared to years ago."

Ed Powers, Director of Operations and a 17-year veteran of the League, agrees with Mr. Slade's observations. "There has been a dramatic decrease in puppies. If we could only see the same decrease in kittens it would be wonderful. Pet overpopulation is still a major issue."

The League's four shelters assisted over 20,000 animals in 1998. This includes domestic animals and wildlife.

A major focus for Mr. Powers is employee training. "There are many types of rescues in all kinds of weather and we want our employees to be prepared." During the year, there are training sessions organized for staff on the ice, in the water, mountains, as well as disaster training. There are League staff members who are part of the disaster relief team sponsored by the American Humane Association. This team at any time can be called anywhere in the country to assist animals in natural disasters. According to Mr. Powers, when he interviews potential League employees, he looks for "drive, determination, and customer service skills."

Leslie Strahl is a graduate of Boston University with a bachelor's degree in biology. She is also an ambulance driver for the League. Daily, she answers calls for animals in distress and patrols the city streets keeping a watchful eye out for strays that may not have the luxury of having a concerned citizen placing a call on their behalf. "I eventually want to become a veterinarian," says Strahl. "Working at the League gives me hands on experience with animals." Ice rescue training has prepared her for the many calls involving injured animals during winter months. A Canada Goose with an embedded arrow is one rescue that stays in her memory. Although the bird had to be euthanized due to its extensive injuries, she was able to be a part of a rescue that ended suffering. What keeps Strahl focused on her duties? She reflects and simply says, "Anything I can do - just one good thing a day to help an animal makes it all worthwhile."

Ambulance driver, Leslie Strahl prepares to start her rounds.

1912
League puts first motorized animal ambulance into service.

1913
First annual Christmas Dinner for Horses.

1915
Branch opened in Lynn, Massachusetts.

Shelter agent, Elena Hinds makes friends with adoption candidate "Rex", a Silky Terrier.

Elena Hinds has been a kennel attendant at the League for over a year. She is also continuing her education in animal science at Mount Ida College. "I've always liked animals. As a child I was always catching stray cats and bringing dogs home." What bothers her about her job? "People who are uneducated regarding proper pet care." The good stories help to balance any negative feelings. "I really enjoy seeing animals go to good homes. It's nice to see an animal that has come to us all skinny, see it gain weight and get healthy, and then go to a good home. That's a good thing."

Clinic receptionist, Christine Fitzgerald trims the nails of "Precious", a Rottweiler waiting for adoption.

Christine Fitzgerald has been employed in the League's clinic as a receptionist for 16 months. Her bachelor's degree is in zoology. "Like everyone else who works here, I was drawn to the League because I love animals." Her compassion is evident as she socializes with "Precious," a young Rottweiler waiting to be adopted. There is an instant bond between the two, and Fitzgerald is eager for "Precious" to have her picture taken.

Law Enforcement Officer Christopher Charbonneau answers yet another call.

League Law Enforcement Officer Christopher Charbonneau has been on staff for 3 years but has been in the field for eleven years. "I came to the League because of its reputation. I also wanted more opportunity to expand my horizons. Basically, I wanted to be able to have a voice in the courtroom for those who can't speak." Officer Charbonneau estimates that 75% of his job is spent educating pet owners and 25% is spent in court. He averages 12 cases a month as he covers Bristol, Plymouth and Barnstable counties. "Many of the calls are for dogs tied out with no shelter. If there is one message he can make people understand, it is this, "Before you get an animal, educate yourself. Visit your local library, call your local animal control officer and veterinarian or call the humane society. Please take the time to learn about proper animal care. Or, you might just get a visit from me."

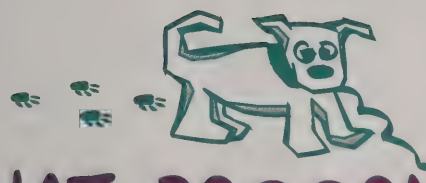
The League is comprised of compassionate people who are passionate in their mission. Patience is indeed a virtue. In the next issue of *Our Fourfooted Friends*, another League shelter will be highlighted in an effort to acquaint our readers with those who work so diligently on behalf of animals. In the meantime, please remember the motto of our founder, "Kindness Uplifts the World."

Segments of the League's timeline will appear in Our Fourfooted Friends throughout our centennial year.

1921
Branch opened on Cape Cod.

1924
Twenty-fifth anniversary observed.

1925
League receives its first $10,000 bequest from estate of Mrs. Jack Gardner.



THAT DOGGONE WALK

Date:
Saturday, May 1, 1999

Time:
11:00 a.m.

Place:
Castle Island in South Boston

Woof! Woof! It's time for the Animal Rescue League of Boston's 2nd annual dog walk, *That Doggone Walk*. Bring your canine companion if you have one, otherwise come alone or bring a friend. Everyone is invited to join the walk on Saturday, May 1, 1999 (rain or shine) at Castle Island in South Boston. Registration begins at 10:15 a.m. Walkers will solicit donations from friends, family and co-workers prior to the walk. The money raised will go toward the care of the thousands of homeless and injured animals that the League helps each year.

Each registrant will receive a goodie bag filled with lots of treats. Four-legged participants will receive a commemorative bandanna (while supplies last.) T-shirts will be available for $10 and will also be given to those individuals who raise at least $75 in pledges. Prizes will be awarded to the top fund-raisers.

That Doggone Walk kicks off the League's celebration of Be Kind to Animals Week. The walk will begin with the traditional Blessing of the Animals. Participants can start their walk any time thereafter until registration closes at noon. Everyone is invited to attend the festivities, you do not need to participate in the walk. Join us at our tables for League and pet care information, instant pet ID tags, and children's activities. It will be a fun-filled day for animal lovers of all ages!

For more information on the dog walk or to receive a brochure, please call Laurel Wellman at 781-461-8015, ext. 26. You may also request a brochure by filling out the form below and mailing it to the League in the postage paid envelope provided.

Attention Business Owners:

Prizes are needed for the Walk's top pledge-getters. Please call Laurel Wellman at 781-461-8015, ext. 26 to donate a new item. Sponsorship mention is included with donation.

Please send me ____ brochures for *That Doggone Walk.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: _____

☐ I can't join the walk but please accept my pledge.

Animal Fri

A special feature for our younger readers

Suggestions for the Children by Anna Harris Smith

Do not ask your father or mother to let you keep a dog, or a cat, or a bird, unless you are willing to take the time to see that it is well cared for and happy.

Kittens and puppies are like little babies and you should be very careful how you handle them. They should not be pulled about by one paw, or by the tail, or be squeezed like a doll, that has no feeling. It hurts them just as much as it would hurt you to be handled roughly.

Remember that dogs and cats have as good an appetite as you have, and they suffer as much when they are hungry or thirsty as you do. You should see that they have food that they like every day and plenty of water to drink.

It is cruel to let dogs run after a bicycle or an automobile. They are apt to get a fit from running so fast. They get left behind and lost, or sometimes they are run over by a car behind.

Dogs or cats suffer if you do not show them any love. Pat them gently and speak to them kindly. When they meet you they look for a kind word, and are disappointed if you do not give it to them.

Dogs need a chance to run out of doors. They suffer when they are shut up most of the day. Pets need exercise just the same as you do. Remember that they are living creatures, not playthings that cannot feel or suffer.

Your cat or your dog should be kept in the house at night unless you have a warm, comfortable barn for them to sleep in. It is not right to shut them out of doors even if they want to go. They are apt to disturb the neighbors by crying, and they need a comfortable bed.

When you go away on a vacation, be sure your dog or your cat or kitten is taken good care of while you are gone. This is a very sad thing that happens to these poor little animals – people go away and leave them; they cry around the empty house; they are hungry and lonesome; they sometimes starve to death. They suffer a great deal, and kind-hearted people suffer to hear them cry. How can you enjoy your vacation if you have left and animal behind to suffer?

Sometimes it is necessary to keep a dog fastened for a little while. If you have not a yard with a high fence, you can run a wire from your back door to a tree or a post and on this wire put an iron ring to which the dog's leash may be attached. Then the dog can run back and forth the full length of the wire. There should be shade on one side so that the dog may be either in the sun or in the shade, then he will not suffer so much from losing his freedom.

There is one thing that grown people and children should think of. It is dangerous to dogs and cats when tin cans that have contained meat or fish are thrown out where they can get at them. They are apt to put their heads in the can to lap it, and then they get their heads caught and die, unless someone can release them. It is not easy to get a tin can off an animal's head. I have known a cat to be nearly dead before it could be freed. It is very little trouble to pound down the mouth of a can before throwing it out, and it may save a great amount of suffering to these little four-footed friends of ours. Please think of it.

There is another good thing that children can do; they can feed the birds in winter, whether they live in the city or in the country. Either they can have a little bird table in their yard, or if they have no room they can save the crumbs and sprinkle them on the snow, or make a bare space on the ground for them. I am sure all the children who do it will be delighted to see the birds coming to this lunch counter. In the summer, it is a kind act to put dishes of water for the birds or for cats and dogs. There are so many things children can do to make life happier for birds and animals that I hope they will try a little harder to think of these things, and do them.

Editor's Note: Our founder, Anna Harris Smith, was a prolific writer in the field of animal welfare. She often wrote for children. The children's section throughout our centennial year will highlight Mrs. Smith's thoughts for children.

ends

Dear Gretel

I always thought ponies were baby horses, but my friend told me they are just small horses. Which one of us is correct?

Dear reader,

Your friend has the right idea, but don't feel bad. The word "pony" is probably the most misused term in the equine dictionary. A true pony is a breed of small horse that stands at or less than 14.2 hands (one hand is equal to 4 inches). Its body proportions are slightly different from those of a riding horse. A pony has legs that are shorter and thicker than those of a horse. A pony is also wider through the girth, shorter in the neck, and heavier in the head. Its back tends to be short and wide, which makes it extremely strong. Despite its small size, a pony can pull and carry more weight in relation to its size than a riding horse.

In Europe, many breeds of ponies live in semi-wild herds, and have to be strong enough to withstand harsh winters with little food. This accounts for their stockier, hardier build. Some of the most commonly recognized breeds are the Shetland, Welsh, Highland, Connemara, Dales, Fell, and Exmoor.

In America, ponies tend to look more like horses because they are usually kept warm inside barns, and are fed highly nutritious grain and feed. Ponies are even crossed with riding horses, which results in offspring that are taller, leaner, and more athletic than the pony parent, but usually not as hardy or adaptable to harsh climates.

All baby horses and ponies are called foals. A male is called a colt, and a female is called a filly until its third or fourth birthday. But regardless of their age and size, all ponies and horses love to run free and enjoy human companionship. Even I have been accused of "horsing around" the barn when there's work to be done! But with friends like ponies and horses, it's easy to get distracted!

Hey Kids!

Do you have questions for Gretel? Write in and if your question gets published in *Our Fourfooted Friends* magazine, you'll receive a free Animal Rescue League of Boston t-shirt. Send your questions to:

Questions
Letters to Gretel, The Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117

friends of the quarter

Parents and friends of Driscoll Extended Day admire the handiwork of loving little hands at their charity craft fair.

Last October, a group of students from the Driscoll Extended Day Program in Brookline, Mass., decided to donate money earned at their annual craft fair. The students voted to give their profits to two different charities: The Make A Wish Foundation and The Animal Rescue League of Boston. After the craft fair in December, the group came in to present the check and take a tour of the adoption center at the League's main headquarters in Boston. The Animal Rescue League thanks the group for their generosity.

If you or someone you know has been performing good deeds on behalf of our animal friends, send us a photo and letter with all the details! If we publish your story, we'll send you a League t-shirt!

Send entries to:
Friend of the Quarter
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117
Participants must be twelve years of age or younger.

Pets in the

1.

"Stormy" the Wonder Cat, as Dr. Stuart Deitcher of Reading, PA., refers to him, is a young 17 years old. Dr. Deitcher enjoys photographing his beloved pet. He tells us, "'Stormy' is quite photogenic as long as you catch him when he's not blinking." Here, it looks like he is waiting for his favorite blanket to come out of the wash.

2.

Kellie Bryan, a League volunteer, adopted "Carmel" after seeing her one night at the shelter when she was checking food dishes. "Carmel" was tiny, but let out the loudest meow every time Kellie left the room. She's become quite a little princess and is very spoiled, but she gets along well with Kellie's other cat "Abbie," (also an ARL alum). Kellie reports, "now 'Carmel' likes to chase my feet and curl up around my neck when I watch TV."

3.

"Tigger" is a beautiful cat. At least we think it's a cat. According to owner, Peter Lennihan of Cambridge, "Tigger" has many "dog" tricks up his sleeve including sit, up, paw, down, and spin. For his feline feats, "Tigger" is rewarded with constant love and attention.

4.

"Champ," a beautiful dog adopted from the Brewster branch five years ago, is pictured making himself right at home in his brand new house. Laura Payeur, "Champ's" owner, reports they are very happy together and "he lightens up my life every day!"

5.

Mary Langer of Stoughton proudly shows off a photo of 11-year-old "Samantha," her "pride and joy." "Samantha" recently attended a dog show at the Norfolk Agriculture School Dog Show with Mary's niece, Amanda Langer, and won four medals including 1st prize for best pet tricks.

6.

"'Sam' has moved to four different apartments with us since we adopted him from the Boston branch in 1991," write Catherine Curvin and William Springstead. "Last year we finally bought him a house of his own with a fenced-in yard. Thanks for letting us have such a great dog!"

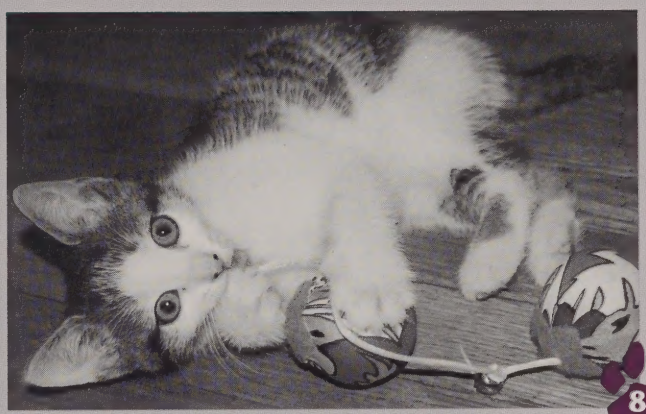
7.

Since being adopted from the Dedham shelter, "Mahli" has shared her very special charms with the whole Stevenson family. Monica Stevenson tells us that "Mahli" first lived with her daughter and son-in-law, and now divides her time between an extended care facility in Virginia and a condo in Florida with Monica's parents. "Mahli" is shown here welcoming the newest family member, Grace.

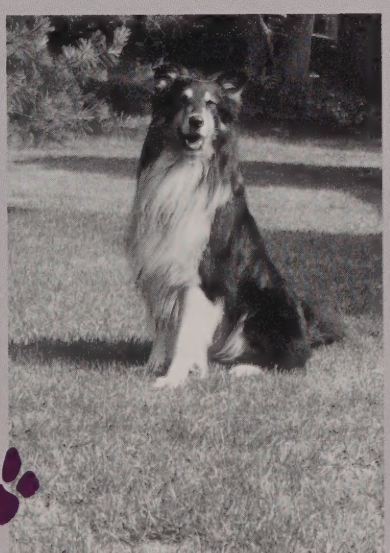
8.

Here is a picture of our lovely little kitten named "Bijou," writes Stephanie Ennaimi of Quincy. She tells us "Bijou" is French for jewel. "We love him! He is just so adorable."

Picture



Gone But Not Forgotten



1. *"Shannon"*

" 'Shannon'...Our constant companion, devoted, loving, accepting. Our golden girl who loved life, the beach, her tennis ball. We will carry her spirit forever in our hearts and will treasure her sweet memory." - Lois Hovsepian

2. *"Belvidere"*

" 'Belvidere' was a very gentle spirit who constantly purred and loved being brushed. His sweetness and companionship will never be forgotten."
– Sandra Dustin

3. *"Nicky"*

"Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened." – Anatole France

"'Nicky,' Greatly loved, Sadly missed" – Bev, Phil & Devon Hardcastle

Pet Loss Group

The loss of a beloved pet can be a difficult experience. The League is now offering support services to the public. The Pet Loss Program will sponsor its "First Monday Meeting" on Monday, April 5 from 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the Boston Shelter. For more information, please call Marcia Lowry Maloney, LMHC at 617-426-9170 ext. 430.

Sit Up & Beg

The staff at the League has developed the following "wish list" of items that would add to the safety, care, or comfort of our animal friends. If you would like to donate any of these items, or contribute a portion of the funds needed to purchase a piece of equipment, please call (617) 426-9170 x-119 or x-109.

Towels and Blankets
Used to line cages for comfort and warmth, as well as in ambulances and after bathing.

Cat and Dog Toys (still in packaging)
Used to help reduce the stress level of the animals while in the shelter.

Antenna Tracking System & Transmitter Darts
Would be used to track tranquilized large animals during humane captures; $750.

Digital Camera
Would be used by public relations department to put photos of adoptable pets and rescued animals on the League's Web site; $700.

Laptop Computer (Windows)
Would be used by education and public relations departments while visiting branch shelters and at community events.

Thank You

Thank you to the many thoughtful animal lovers who take time to stop at our shelter locations to drop off blankets, towels and toys. Your kindness provides comfort, warmth and happiness to our furry friends.

We would like to gratefully thank the following friends for their generous contributions:

Oars
Sharon Boyle

Antenna Tracking System & Transmitter Darts
Henry T. Wiggin
Nicki Tripodes

OOPS, we forgot to acknowledge some very considerate people. We apologize and greatly appreciate your generosity.

Ted Gaiser – Thank you for personally delivering toys, bones and pet supplies in honor of your dogs' birthdays.

Dorothy Cohen – Thank you for the boat which we will be using at our summer camp. The kids will love it!

Kevin Frazier of Pet Mania – For placing a sign in the window of his store requesting blanket and towel donations. He brought a station wagon full of warmth for our animal friends.

Volunteer Corner

On Saturday, Feb. 6, the League's volunteers were honored at an Appreciation Brunch held at Apetito's restaurant in Boston. The volunteers, ranging in age from eight to 65, were celebrated for the time and dedication they have donated to the Animal Rescue League. Volunteers who have been with the League for less than one year were presented with certificates of appreciation; while those who have donated more than a year of their time to the League were presented with volunteer pins in addition to the certificates. These people have donated their free time to assist with animal care and socialization, cleaning, office work, special events and numerous other tasks that arise unexpectedly each day. All of our volunteers are to be commended for their hard work and commitment to the League!

Special Centennial Celebration Prices

Show your support

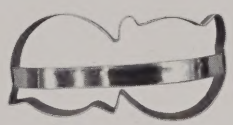
and help spread awareness of the Animal Rescue League of Boston by wearing and using these new League items!

All of these promotional items may be purchased at League locations in Boston, Brewster, Dedham and Salem, or may be ordered by mail.

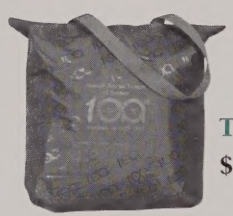
Sweatshirt
(S, M, L, XL)
$14.00 ea.
Children's
(S, M, L)
$13.00 ea.

T-Shirt
(S, M, L, XL)
$7.00 ea.
Children's
(S, M, L)
$6.00 ea.

Centennial Coffee Mug
$2.00 ea.



Cookie Cutter
$4.00 ea.



Tote Bag
$9.00 ea.

Blue Ribbon Pin
$3.00 ea.

Water Bottle
$1.00 ea.

Baseball Hats

"ARL Logo" Hat
$9.00 ea.

"Centennial Hat"
$10.00 ea.

Please send me:

Quantity	Item	Size	Cost
Total *(Please add $3.00 for shipping and handling for orders $10 and over or if ordering two or more ceramic mugs.)*			

NAME

STREET

CITY STATE ZIP

Enclosed is my check or money order in the amount of $ ____ made payable to the Animal Rescue League of Boston. (Please remember shipping and handling charge if applicable.) Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

Mail to: **Animal Rescue League of Boston**
P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117

Anna Harris Smith,
founder of the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

Our fourfooted friends (US ISSN 0030 6851)
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265 Boston, Massachusetts 02117

Address Correction Requested